Bedford Historic Preservation Commission Minutes of Virtual Meeting of 03/15/2022

Commission Members Present: J. Linz (Chair), D. Corey, J. McAleer, D. Goldbaum

Members Absent: None

There are three vacancies on the Commission.

Others Present: C. Laskey (Facilitator), E. Pierce, C. Amick, W. Moonan

- 1. The meeting minutes of 03/01/2021 were moved, seconded, and approved, 4-0.
- 2. Financial Report There was no change in the Commission's financial status. A legal ad invoice will be paid as previously approved.
- 3. 139 The Great Road Because discussion regarding demolition of the building at 139 Great Road had not appeared on the Commission's agenda for its 03/01/2022 meeting, it had been moved, seconded, and voted, 4-0, to have a posted special meeting on this topic on March 15, 2022. An option that has apparently been discussed is to demolish the house at 139 Great Road and to construct a new fire station at that location. Built in 1836, the house is in the Local Historic District and listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

There was an extended discussion regarding viable alternative design possibilities to save the house and questions whether any definitive plan for the new station existed. However, there appear to be no definitive plans, and the current intent appears to be to demolish the house and front wall along the sidewalk and remove landscaping at the front of the property and replace it with a 3- or 4-bay station with the doors facing Great Road with a large concrete apron across the front of the property.

Following the discussion, it was moved, seconded, and voted, 4-0, that the Historic Preservation Commission oppose the demolition of the historic house at 139 Great Road, which is listed on the National Register, in accordance with its purpose as stated in the Town's General Bylaws, to promote the ... welfare of the public through preservation and protection of "distinctive characteristics of the buildings, places, and sites significant to the history of the Town of Bedford".

13. Next Meeting. The next regular scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 7:00 PM. It will either be a virtual Zoom meeting or an in-person meeting if allowed by that date.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Corey Acting Clerk